

Centre to study SA's oceans

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In a global environment characterised by the growing role of science, the Nansen-Tutu Centre for Marine Environmental Research is slowly enhancing knowledge of marine science, a subject that is widely misunderstood by many in South Africa.

"Our biggest impact on South Africa is through education and training of students, advancing the understanding of the regional ocean and climate systems," explains Dr Bjorn Backeberg, co-director at the centre. "This is achieved through supervision and mentorship of postgraduate students and providing finance for students to study."

The centre is a joint venture between, amongst others, the Nansen Environmental and Remote Sensing Centre in Norway and South African partners. It is based in the Department of Oceanography at the University of Cape Town (UCT) and operates as a programme complementing the development of the South African marine research framework. It is funded by Norway and South African sources, and is under the management and financial control of UCT.

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